

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the final Office Action mailed July 8, 2005.

Claims 16-22 and 25-37 were pending. Claims 16, 32, and 35-37 are amended.

Claims 21 and 22 are cancelled. New claims 38 and 39 are added. Accordingly, claims 16-20 and 25-39 are now pending for reconsideration.

No new matter is added by the amendments and new claims, which are fully supported in the specification. For example, new claims 38 and 39 are supported in paragraphs [0109] through [0113] of the published application (Pub. No. 2005/0200882). Further, the subject matter in the amendments to claims 16, 32 and 36 is similar to elements of the claims in previously allowed U.S. Patent Nos. 6,009,284 and 6,282,383, to which the present application has a common claim of priority.

In the Office Action, all claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the following combinations of references:

- claims 16 and 17 are rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,077,582 to Kravette et al. in view of U.S. Patent Reissue No. 31,222 to McCracken, U.S. Patent No. 3,975,712 to Hepworth et al. and U.S. Patent No. 4,644,478 to Stephens et al.;
- claims 18-22, 25, 27-31 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kravette in view of McCracken, Hepworth and Stephens further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,625,077 to Biffle et al.;
- claim 26 is rejected as being unpatentable over Kravette in view of McCracken, Hepworth, Stephens and Biffle further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,531,215 to Ladewski et al.; and
- claims 32 and 35 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kravette in view of Hepworth and McCracken;
- claim 33 is rejected as being unpatentable over Kravette in view of Hepworth and McCracken further in view of Ladewski;

- claim 34 is rejected as being unpatentable over Kravette in view of Hepworth and McCracken further in view of Stephens; and
- claims 36 and 37 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kravette in view of Stephens, U.S. Patent No. 4,181,941 to Godsey and McCracken.

These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claims 16, 32 and 36 as Amended Recite Elements not Disclosed in the References

In response to the Office Action, claims 16, 32 and 36 are amended to recite that the control computer (or copier) is configured (1) to receive a copier control command from the monitoring computer and (2) to transmit to the monitoring computer a copier status information in response to a request (i.e., polling) for status information received from the personal computer. None of the references disclose either of these additional limitations. For example, Kravette fails to disclose both the remote control of a copier and transmission of status information based upon polling. In contrast, Kravette discloses transmitting information at predetermined times or upon a predetermined internal event, (e.g., a copy count). Since the Stephens, Godsey, Ledewski and Hepworth references concern data communications, alarm monitoring and memory mapping of external devices, none of these references rectify these deficiencies of Kravette. Further, the McCracken reference, disclosing down-hole temperature and pressure sensors, and the Biffle reference, disclosing a telephone bridging apparatus, are nonanalogous art having nothing to do with copier machine monitoring or copier remote control capabilities, and thus these references also fail to rectify the deficiencies of Kravette.

Since the independent claims 16, 32 and 36 as amended recite elements that are not disclosed or suggested in any one or combination of the cited references, Applicants respectfully submit that these amended claims are allowable and request withdrawal of the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Since claims 17-20 and 25-31 depend, directly or indirectly, from allowable claim 16, claims 33-35 depend from allowable claim 32, and claim 37 depends from allowable

claim 36, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are also allowable and request withdrawal of the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

New Claims 38 and 39 are Patentable

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 38 and 39 are allowable for depending from allowable claims 16 and 32, respectively. Additionally, these claims recite that the control computer is configured to transmit real time copier machine status information to the remote computer, an additional limitation that is not disclosed or suggested in any one or combination of the cited references.

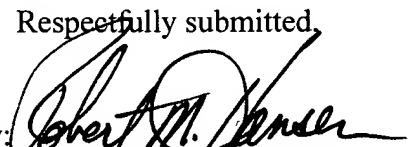
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

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